

FV204-CS1

July 1999

Commodity Specification

Canned Dried Beans



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I. General**A. U.S. Standards**

Canned dried beans (product/commodity) produced under this Commodity Specification must meet the requirements specified in the applicable United States Standards for Grades of Canned Dried Beans (U.S. Standards) effective on the date of the Invitation for Offers to Sell (Invitation). The U.S. Standards are published separately (7 C.F. R. part 52) and are incorporated herein and made a part of this Commodity Specification.

B. Exceptions to U.S. Standards

Exceptions to the U.S. Standards for the Department of Agriculture (USDA) Canned Bean purchases are found in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, of this document. Additional exceptions may be specified in the applicable Invitation. Any exceptions contained in the applicable Invitation shall have precedence over the requirements contained herein, for that Invitation only.

C. Product Origin

1. Commodities delivered pursuant to this Commodity Specification shall have originated from crops that have been 100% grown, processed, and packed in the United States, its territories or possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands, (hereinafter referred to as the United States). See Section I.F. of Announcement FV-204.
2. If the contractor handles any commodity originating from sources other than the United States, the contractor must have a written plan to segregate the commodity. This segregation plan will include an identification and record system for all commodities to ensure they are completely segregated and cannot be used to fulfill contracts awarded by USDA. Such segregation plan must be made available to representatives of the Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS).
3. The contractor must maintain positive written documentation records evidencing 100 percent domestic origin, to the grower level. Contractors must also ensure that the documentation provided by any sub-contractors demonstrates the same level of traceability. The burden of proof of compliance is on the contractor.

Documentation may include load or warehouse storage receipts for raw product (i.e., bin tags), product blend (formulation) records, product coding explanations, finished product warehousing records, shipping or payment records, or other documentation or evidence that clearly establishes the product's domestic origin.

4. Contractors must provide the domestic origin certification and supporting documentation records to representatives of the AMS Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader). when requesting

inspection service. USDA graders will select and review at least one code for each contract to determine compliance with the Agency's domestic origin requirements.

5. Such records must be available for review by the Government in accordance with Article 76 of USDA-1. In the event of an audit, AMS auditors will examine as many codes as necessary to verify compliance.
6. Self-certifications by contractors and sub-contractors will not be accepted.
7. Failure to observe this requirement may lead to suspension or debarment, contract termination, and penalties at Title 18, Section 1001 of the US Code concerning falsification of information.

D. Manufacturing Practices**1) Good Manufacturing Practices**

All canned dried beans must be produced in accordance with the Food and Drug Administration's Good Manufacturing Practices (21 C.F.R., Part 110).

2) Plant Audit

Successful bidders are required to undergo an annual plant survey.

The primary purpose of conducting a plant survey is to ensure that the contractor produces products in a clean, sanitary environment. Contractors are required to maintain process operations records that are sufficiently detailed as to allow Processed Products Branch (PPB) to determine past and current sanitation practices.

The PPB, AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, will conduct the plant surveys. PPB personnel will follow the procedures found in the most current version of PPB File Code 159-A-1, Plant Sanitation. Contractors must provide the Contracting Officer with a copy of an acceptable completed survey. An acceptable plant survey will be valid for one year.

Contractors who have a PPB inspector in-plant through a contract service agreement will be considered to have met the plant survey requirement, since a plant survey is a prerequisite to a contract service agreement.

Completion of the plant survey prior to the submission of a bid is suggested, but not required. If a firm submitting a bid receives an award, and has not had a plant survey within the past year, it must provide proof of an acceptable plant survey not later than 10 business days from the date of the contract. Failure to provide this documentation within the proper time frame will result in the contract being terminated for cause.

E. Packing Season

All canned dried beans must be from the current packing season/crop year, unless otherwise specified in the applicable Invitation.

F. Holding Period

No shipment of canned dried beans may be made earlier than 14 days after packing.

G. Grade of Canned Dried Beans:

All canned beans must be U.S. Grade A (as defined in the U. S. Standard) and in accordance with the Commercial Item Description (CID) A-A-20134A dated June 1, 1994, unless otherwise specified in Section II, Individual Product Specifications, herein or the applicable Invitation.

H. Fill of Container:

1. Contractor must meet the washed drained weight for the product as specified in CID A-A-20134A unless otherwise indicated herein.
2. The average net weight must meet the net weight as printed on the label.

I. Packing, Labels and Packaging**1. Primary Containers (cans)**

All products must be packed in new, commercially acceptable primary containers (cans). Canned dried beans shall be packed only in the container size and type specified in the applicable Invitation.

The cans must be suitably code marked so that the product can be identified with related inspection certificates.

2. Can Labels

USDA can labels are shown in Exhibits 1-1 through 1-15. The wording and design of the labels is restricted to that shown in the exhibit. The labels must be printed in ink of the color specified, on commercially acceptable, white paper stock.

3. Secondary Container (case) Markings

The cans shall be further enclosed within new, corrugated fiberboard cartons (cases) acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. Flaps, gaps and other openings may not exceed 1 inch and must be fully glued or sealed with tape. If tape is used in lieu of glue, it must be clear and of commercially acceptable width and strength. The tape must extend at least two inches down the sides or ends.

Cases must be marked in such a manner that they contain all of the symbols, statements and information contained in Exhibit 2, "Required Markings for Shipping Containers".

Cases may be marked by printing or stenciling or by preprinted, self-adhesive stickers.

Exact arrangement and adherence to font size is not required. The case markings must be clearly marked, easily read, and substantially the same as specified in Exhibit 2.

Exhibit 3 shows an alternative placard that may be applied to a new, corrugated fiberboard case acceptable by common or other carriers for safe transportation to destinations. Cases must have the recycling statement shown in Exhibit 6, "Please Recycle" Symbol and Statement or Exhibit 7, "Corrugated Recycles" Symbol and Statement.

J. Universal Product Codes (UPC)

Primary label and shipping container Universal Product Codes for USDA products are listed in Exhibit 4. The Contractor's UPC is not acceptable. The primary container UPC must be positioned on the can label as shown in Exhibit 1. The shipping container UPC must be marked on the case as shown in Exhibit 2.

K. Palletization Requirements

1. Pallets

Product must be on 40 X 48 inch, non-reversible, flush stringer, and partial four-way entry. New pallets must be good quality wood. Used pallets must be No.1 hardwood or its equivalent in new softwood. If pallet exchange is desired, the contractor shall arrange for pallet exchange with consignees. USDA is in no way responsible for arrangement of pallet exchange.

2. Unitization

Each delivery unit of canned dried beans must be unitized. Shipping cases must be stacked and secured from top to bottom, so that each container and layer of containers becomes an integral part of the pallet. Either stretch wrapping with plastic film or "lock 'n pop" is acceptable.

II. Individual Commodity Specifications

A. Vegetarian

1. Grade - U.S. Grade A.
2. Color - No Artificial Color, No Starches, No Artificial Color
3. Style - Canned
4. Type of Pack - White Beans shall be practically similar in varietal characteristics and packed in meatless tomato sauce. The white beans shall consist of pea beans (also known as Navy beans), or small white beans. Only Tomato Sauce with Natural Spices shall to be used for Vegetarian Beans.
5. Net Weight (6/10) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 108.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 106.0 ounces.
6. Net Weight (24/300) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 15.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 14.7 ounces.

B. Beans in Brine

1. Grade - U.S. Grade A, except pigeon peas which must meet requirement for U.S. Grade B.
2. Color - No Artificial Color, No Starches, No Artificial Additives
3. Style - Canned
4. Type of Pack - Pinto Beans, Red Beans (small red type only), Blackeye Beans, Light Red Kidney, Dark Red Kidney Beans, Baby Lima, Pink Beans, Great Northern Beans, Garbanzo Beans, Pigeon Peas, and Black Turtle Beans shall be packed in brine and any other safe and suitable ingredient(s).
5. Net Weight (6/10) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 108.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 106.0 ounces.
6. Net Weight (24/300) – The average net weight of all containers shall be not less than 15.0 ounces and no individual container shall have a net weight of less than 14.7 ounces.

NOTE: Pigeon Peas are botanically known as *Cajanus Cajun* from the family leguminosae, which are known to be grown in the Puerto Rico region, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

C. Refried

1. Grade - U.S. No. 2.
2. Type of Pack - Canned.
3. Style – Smooth pinto beans, without oil(s) or lard, Optional: onion and/or garlic flavoring (this is optional, not a requirement.)

Notes:

Production of the product shall include complete cooking to the final stages of desired texture by the **“open kettle”** method. No abbreviated cooking procedures are permitted.

The refried beans shall have a typical mashed bean texture, free from dryness, and practically free from lumps. The product shall contain a noticeable amount of whole beans and portions of beans.

The product shall contain not less than 10 percent nor more than 33-1/3 percent of the pink beans class. The refried beans shall have pinto bean flavor, shall have less than 0.5 percent salt added and shall be free from objectionable flavors such as rancidity and/or excessive scorching.

The product shall be free from foreign material. Also, the product shall be practically free from defects such as discolored beans and any other defects that materially detract from the appearance, except that the product can be fairly free of loose skins.

Final determination of the acceptability of product flavor and texture shall be made by the USDA Grader.

The average net weight per container shall be 112.0 ounces. No individual container shall be less than 110.5 ounces.

III. Inspection and Checkloading

A. Requirements

Representatives of the AMS, Fruit and Vegetable Programs, Processed Products Branch (USDA Grader) must perform the inspection and checkloading required by Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1.

Inspection of canned products must be performed not more than 90 days prior to shipment. Whether each lot offered meets the product and container requirements of the contract must be determined on the basis of representative sample units. Representative sample units will be graded according to the Regulations Governing Inspection and

Certification of Canned Fruits and Vegetables and Related Products (7 C.F.R. part 52), and United States Standards for Condition of Food Containers (7 C.F.R. part 42.140), effective on the date of the Invitation.

B. Certification

Subject to Articles 54 and 55 of USDA-1, the acceptability of the quality, weight, packaging, and checkloading of the product must be evidenced by certificates issued by the USDA Grader.

No product shall be shipped unless the USDA Grader informs the Contractor that a designated lot is acceptable. Notice by the USDA Grader that a designated lot scheduled for shipment does not meet requirements of the contract shall constitute rejection of such lot.

C. Procedures

The Contractor must give the USDA Grader at least 7 days advance notice when scheduling inspection service. Prior to sampling, the Contractor must furnish the USDA Grader with a list of codes and the approximate number of cases per code.

IV. Failure to Meet Specifications

Any lot which fails applicable specifications prescribed herein will be rejected as not acceptable for delivery, except as noted in A or B below. If any lot of canned beans fails to meet the product or packaging requirement noted below, the Contractor may request in writing that USDA accept delivery of the lot. USDA may, at its option, accept delivery, provided that the purchase price is the contract price less the minimum discount specified, depending upon the reason(s) for the failure to meet specifications.

A. Product

1. Drained or Net Weight Deficiency
 - (a) Average Weight Deficiency:

If any lot fails low average drained weight or low adjusted net weight, the discount will be twice the percentage by which the lot fails to meet the minimum required weight.

Example: Weight required for a given can is 100.0 ounces. The average weight for a given lot of product is 98 ounces. Such lot is then 2.0 ounces, or 2 percent (.02) below the required weight. The purchase price for such lot would be the contract price less a discount of 4 percent (.04) of such price.

- (b) Individual Weight Deficiency:

If any lot fails requirements for low individual container or low subgroup averages (net weight) the discount must be 1 percent (.01) of the contract price.

- (c) Combination of Average and Individual Weight Deficiency

If any lot fails because of a combination of both (a) and (b) above, the discount must be whichever of the individual discounts is greater.

B. Packaging

1. Primary Container (Can) Markings
 - (a) Incorrect Weight Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
 - (b) Incorrect Serving Size: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
 - (c) Incorrect Nutritional Information: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
 - (d) Incorrect UPC Code: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
2. Secondary Container (Case) Markings
 - (a) Missing Contract Number: Subject to a two (2) percent discount
 - (b) Missing 'Not to be Sold or Exchanged' Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
 - (c) Missing 'Distributed by USDA in Cooperation with State and Local or Tribal Governments for Domestic Food Assistance Programs' Statement: Subject to a two (2) percent discount.
 - (d) Missing Pack Date: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
 - (e) Incorrect or missing UPC Code: Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
 - (f) Missing 'USDA Shield': Subject to a one (1) percent discount.
 - (g) Missing 'Recycle Symbol': Subject to a one (1) percent discount.

Susan E. Proden
Contracting Officer
Fruit and Vegetable Programs
Agricultural Marketing Service

V. Exhibits

Exhibit 1-1
Can Label for Canned Vegetarian Beans, No. 300 size

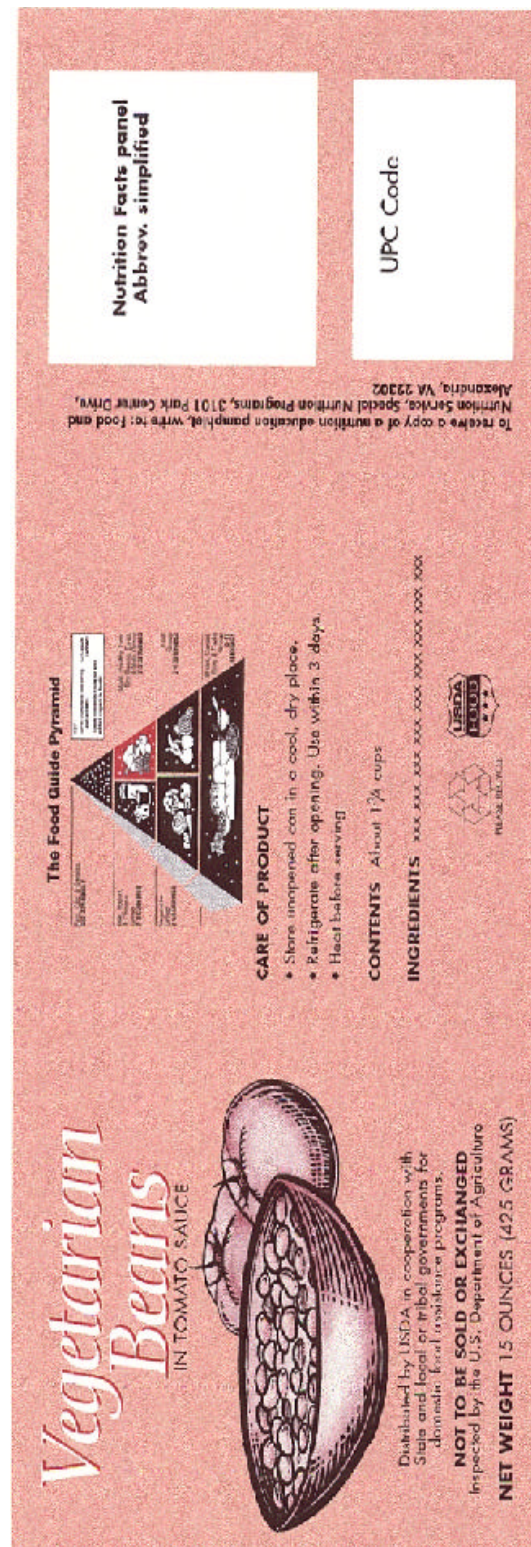


Exhibit 1-2
Can Label for Canned Vegetarian Beans, No. 6/10 size

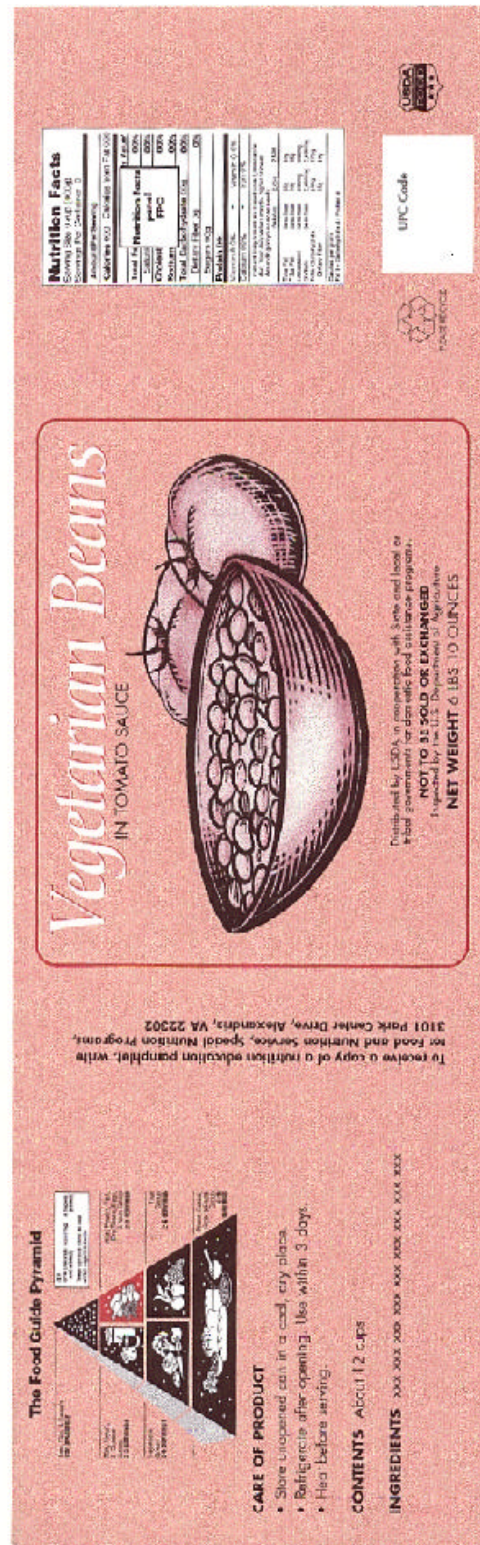


Exhibit 1-3
Can Label for Canned Baby Lima Beans, No. 10 size

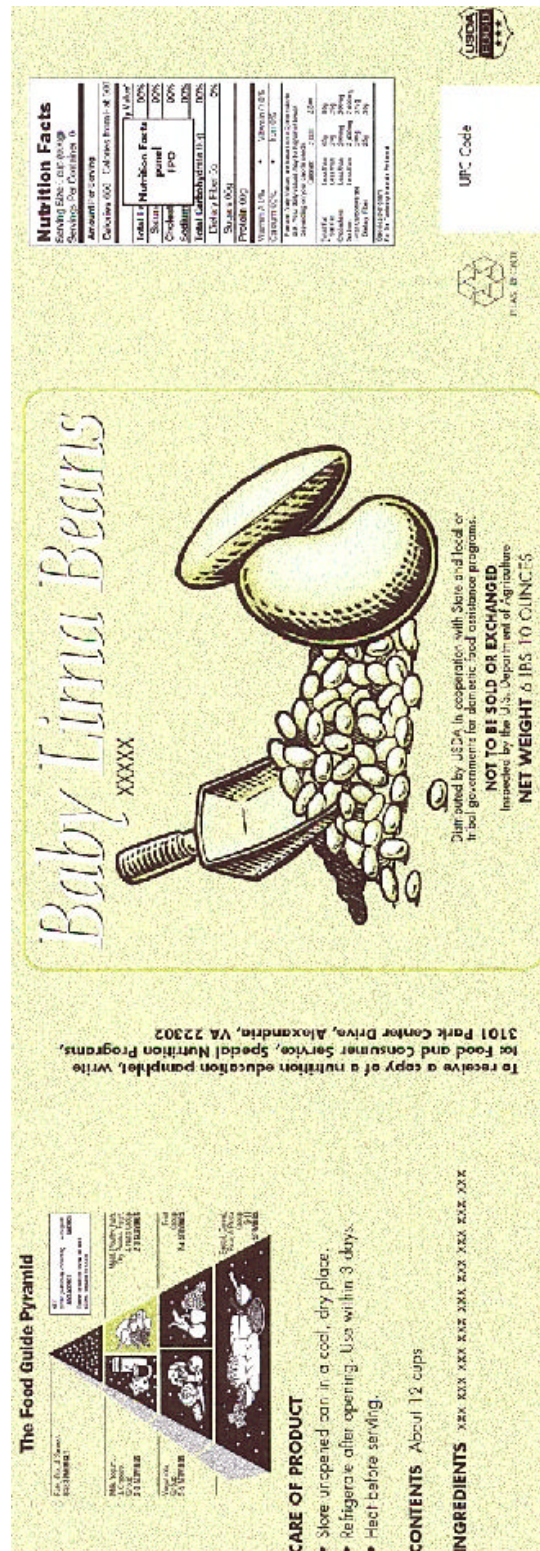


Exhibit 1-4
Can Label for Canned Black Turtle Beans, No. 10 size

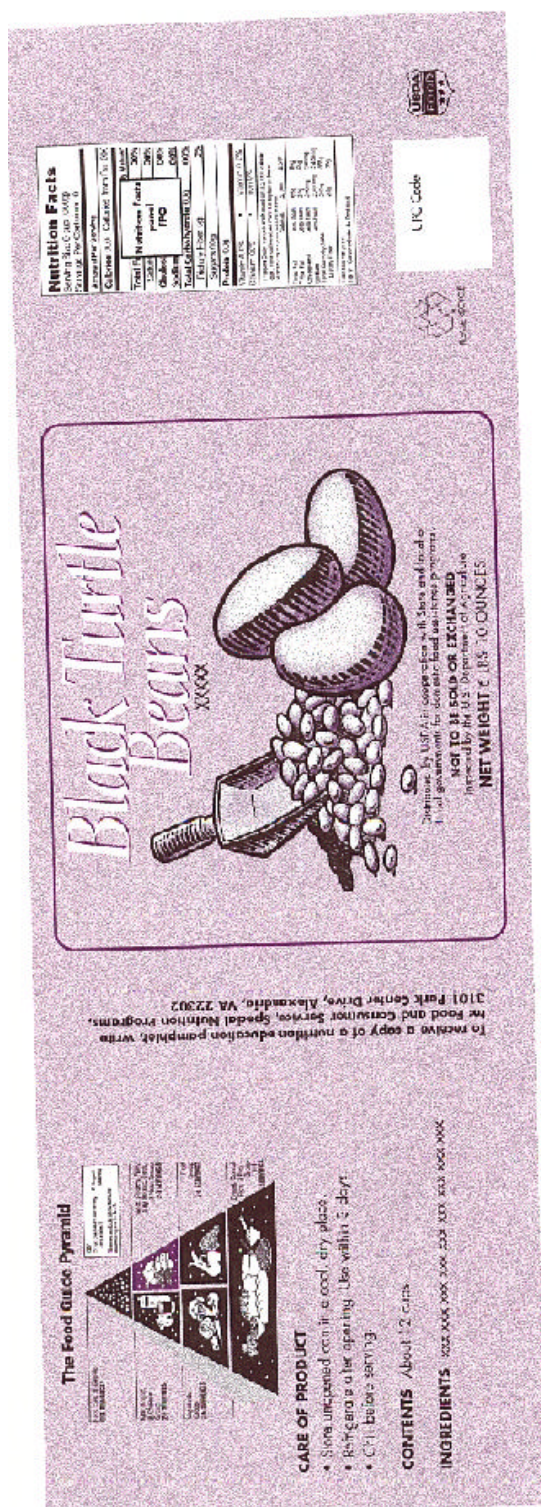


Exhibit 1-5
Can Label for Canned Blackeye Peas, No. 10 size

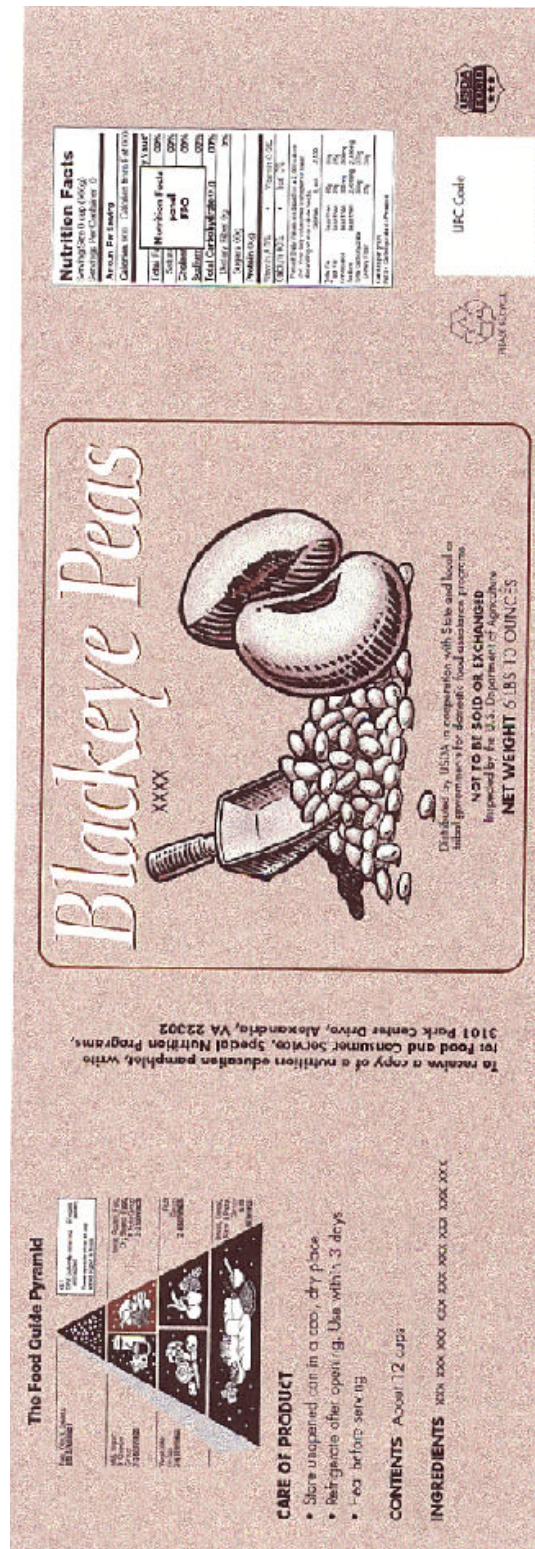
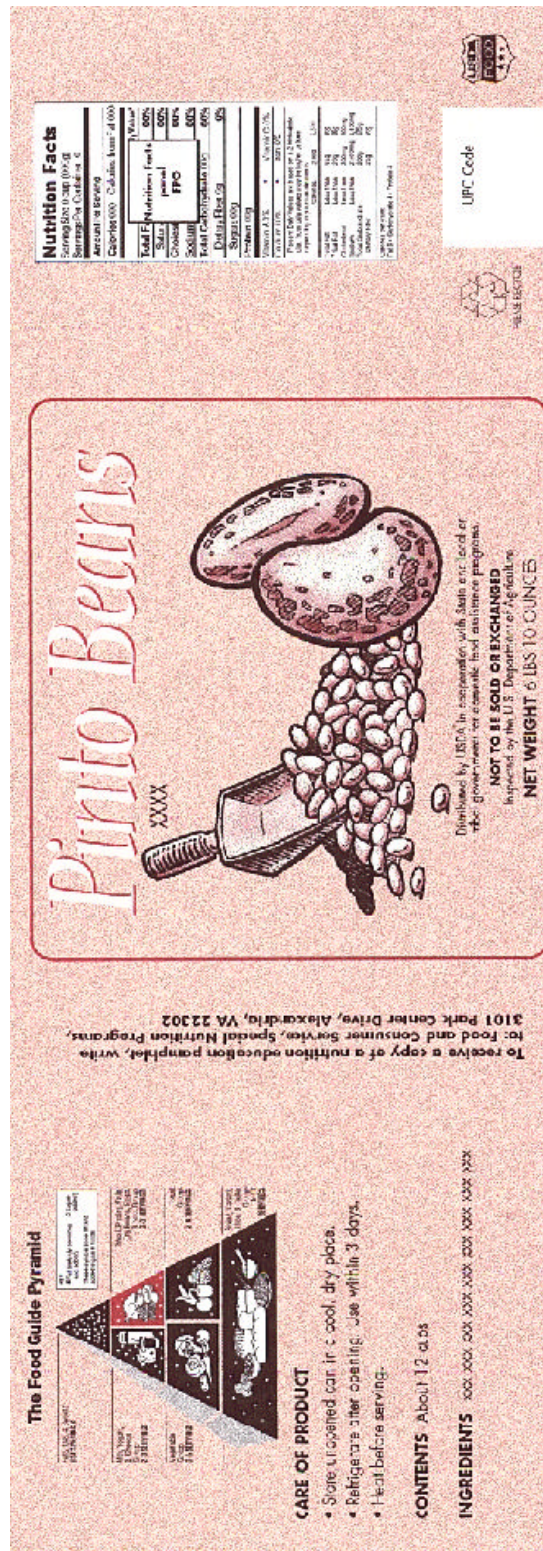


Exhibit 1-6
Can Label for Canned Pinto Beans, No. 10 size



The Food Guide Pyramid

Vegetables and Fruits
2-3 cups daily

Grains
3-5 servings daily

Protein Foods
2-3 servings daily

Dairy
2-3 servings daily

Fats, Oils, and Sweets
Use sparingly

ARE OF PRODUCT

Some unopened can in a cool, dry place.
Ref. serve after opening. Use within 3 days.
Free before serving.

CONTENTS About 2 cups

INGREDIENTS 100% SOY BEAN KICK XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX XXX

Garbanzo Beans

XXXX

Not listed by USDA, is processed in with Soy and local soy
tribal governments for domestic food assistance programs.
NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED
Inspected by the U.S. Department of Agriculture
NET WEIGHT 6 LBS 10 OUNCES

Nutrition Facts

Serving Size: 1/2 cup (125g)
Amount Per Serving
Calories 100
Total Fat 1g
Sodium 100mg
Total Carbohydrate 20g
Protein 8g

PER 1/2 CUP (125g)

Total Fat 1g
Sodium 100mg
Total Carbohydrate 20g
Protein 8g

PER 1/2 CUP (125g)

Total Fat 1g
Sodium 100mg
Total Carbohydrate 20g
Protein 8g

For Food and Consumer Service, Special Nutrition Programs,

3101 Park Center Drive, Alexandria, VA 22302

To receive a copy of a nutrition education pamphlet, write

to: Food and Consumer Service, Special Nutrition Programs,

Exhibit 1-8
Can Label for Canned Great Northern Beans, No. 10 size

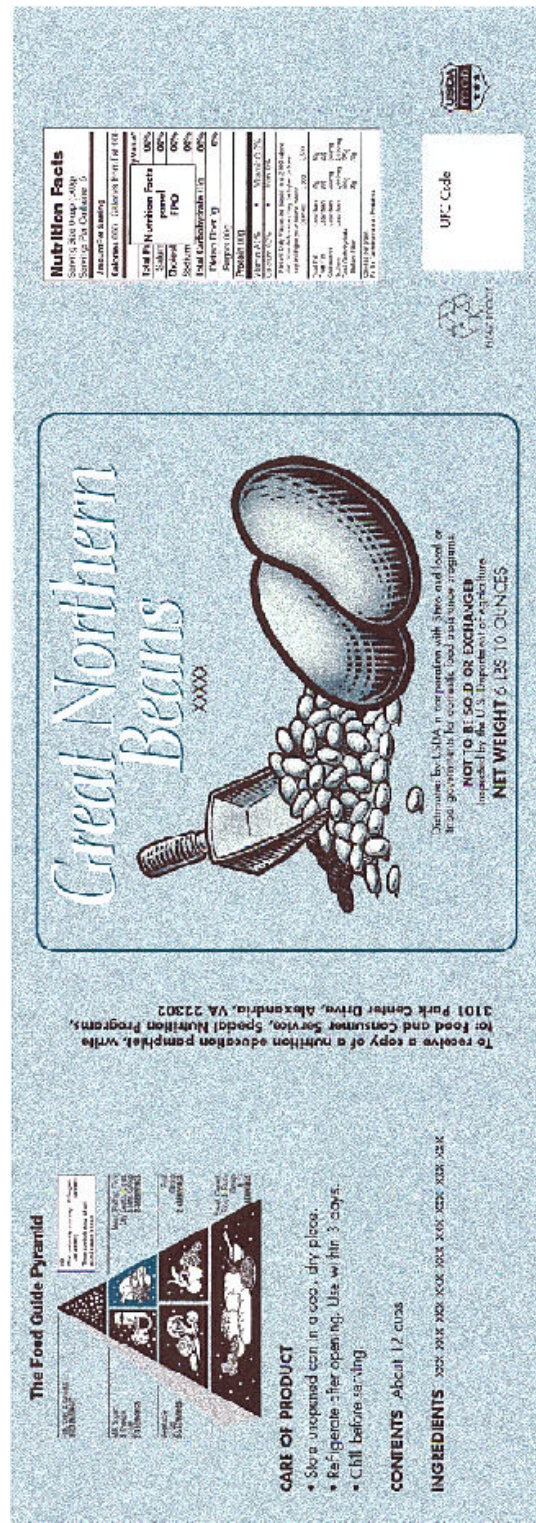


Exhibit 1-9
Can Label for Canned Kidney Beans, No. 10 size

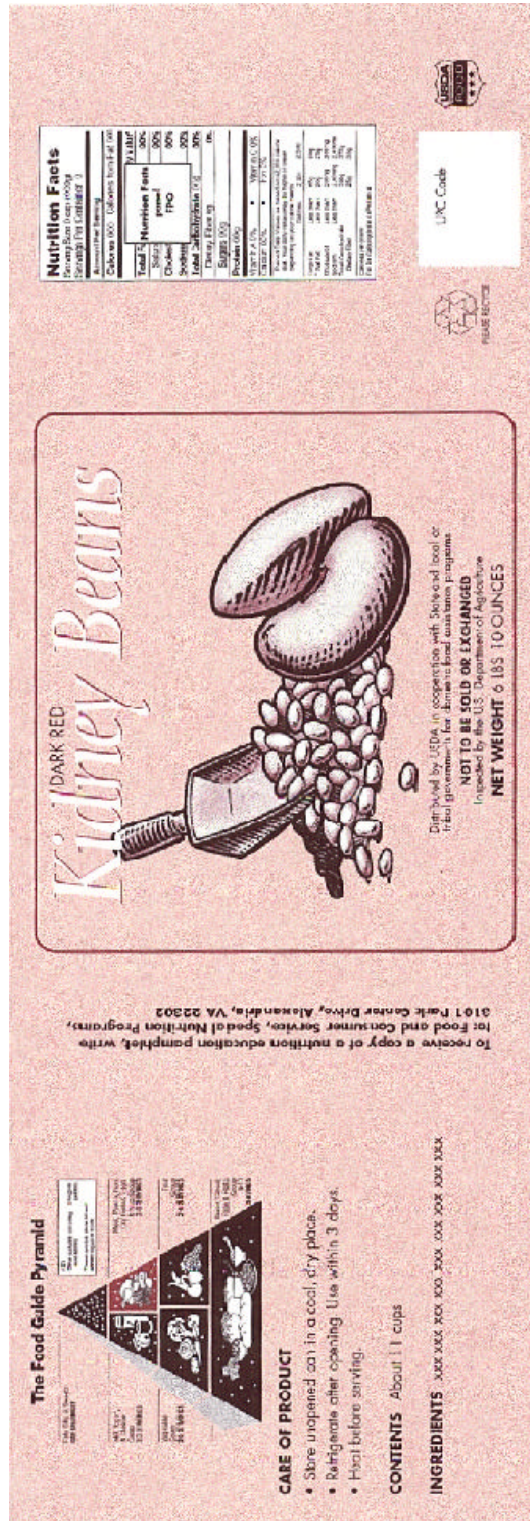


Exhibit 1-10
Can Label for Canned Navy Beans, No. 10 size



Exhibit 1-11
Can Label for Canned Pink Beans, No. 10 size

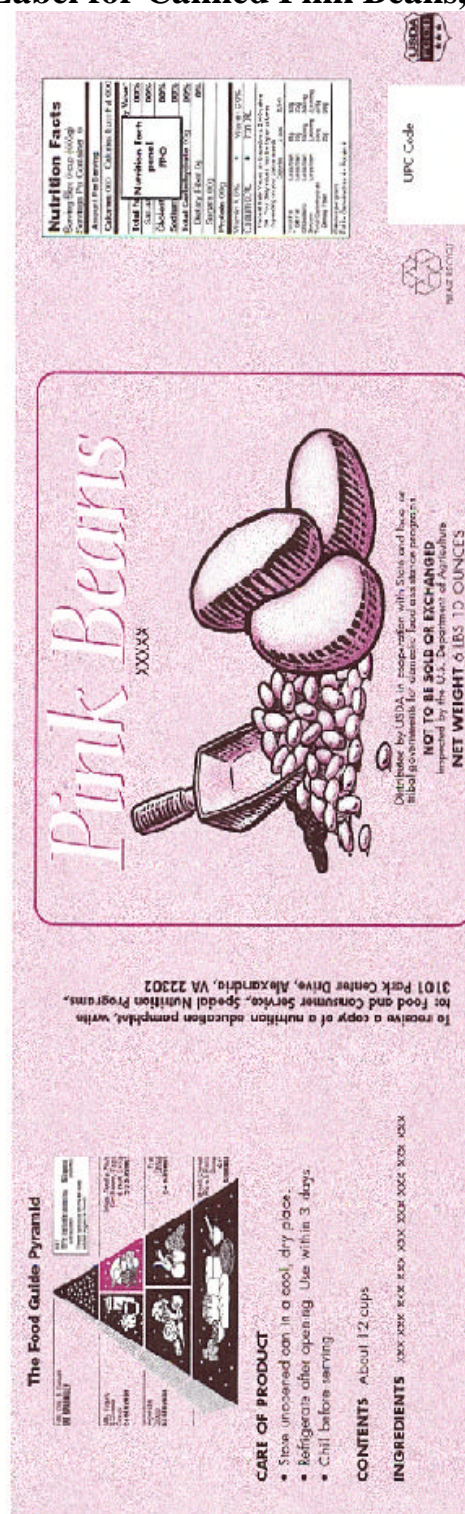


Exhibit 1-12
Can Label for Canned Small Red Beans, No. 10 size

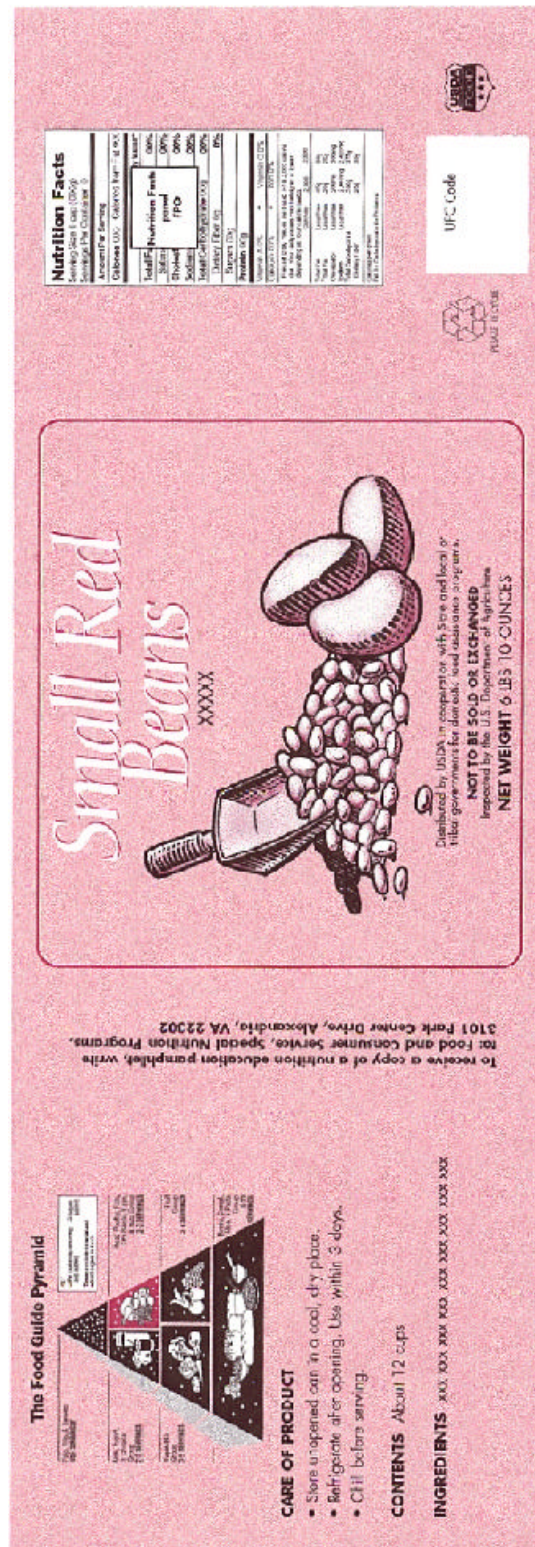


Exhibit 1-13
Can Label for Canned Split Peas, No. 10 size

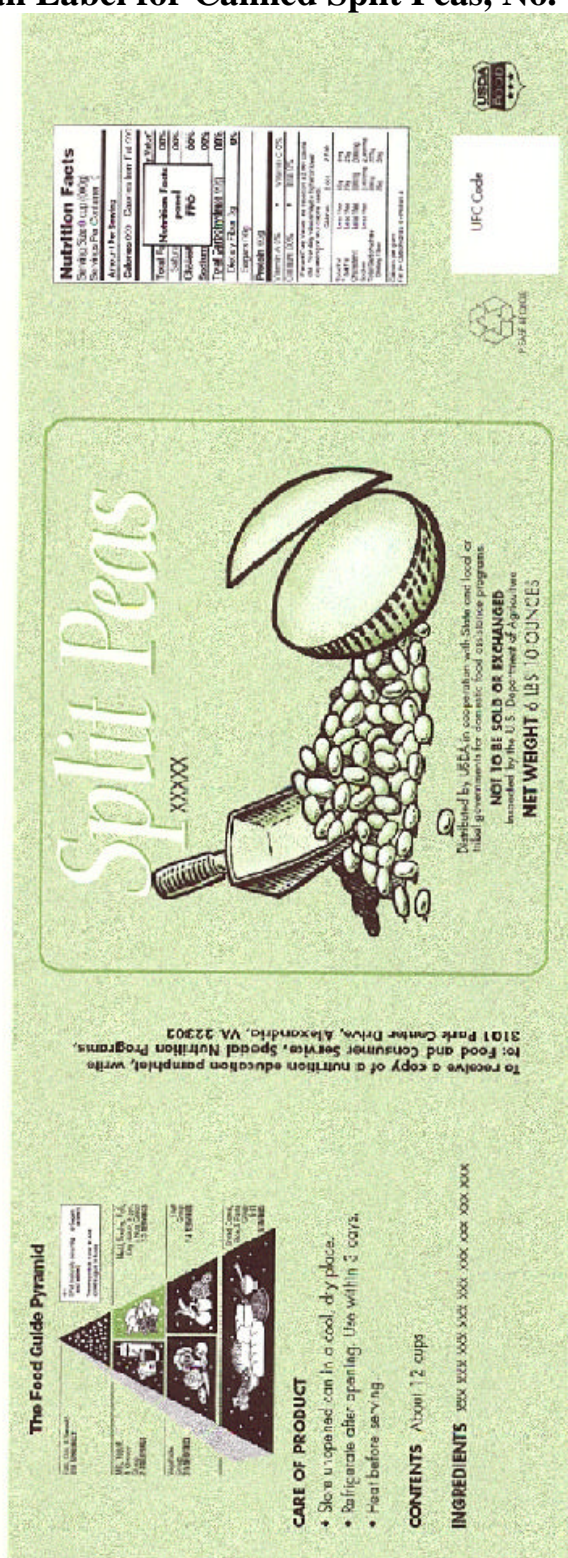


Exhibit 1-14
Can Label for Canned Refried Beans, No. 6/10 size

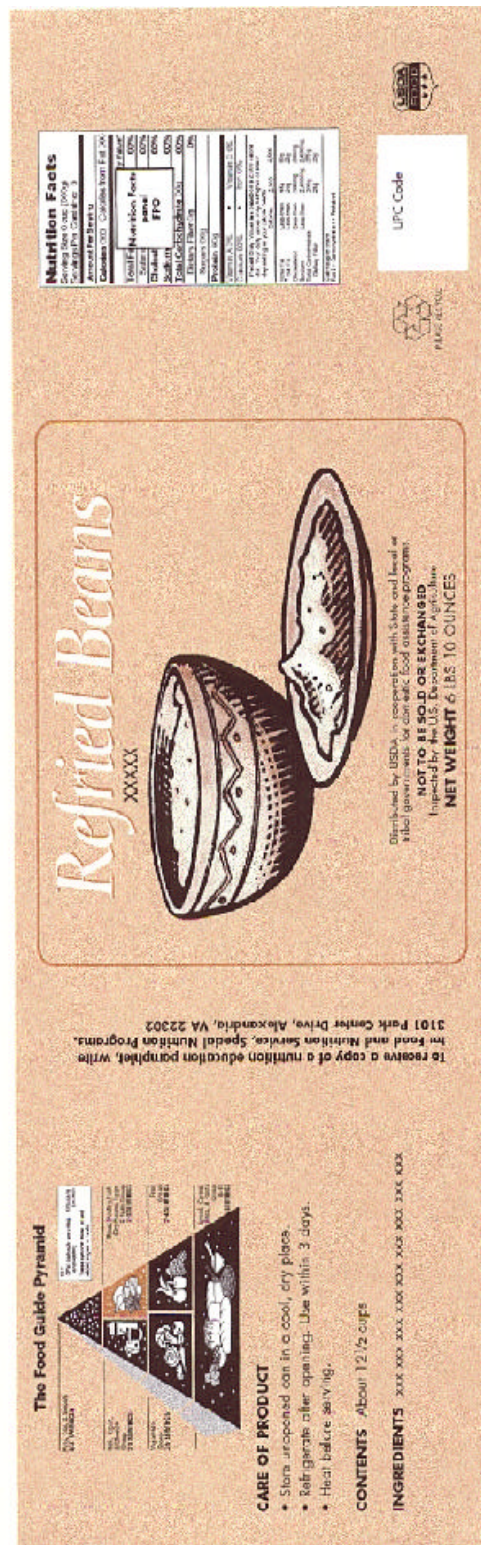


Exhibit 1-15
Can Label for Canned Refried Beans, No. 300 size



Exhibit 2
Required Markings for Shipping Containers
ALL PRINTING TO BE IN BLACK INK

| <u>BOTH SIDE PANELS</u> | <u>BOTH END PANELS</u> |
|---|------------------------|
| PRODUCT NAME | PRODUCT NAME |
| 1/ | CONTRACT NO. 3/ |
| 2/ | PACKED IN 4/ BY |
| | 5/ |
| USDA SYMBOL | 7/ |
| 6/ | |
| DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS | |
| NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED STORE IN COOL, DRY PLACE | |

Product name must be printed or stenciled on a separate line in letters at least three-fourths inch high, and all other information must be in letters less than three-fourths inch but clearly legible. The USDA Food Symbol must be printed, stamped, or labeled and be of sufficient size to stand out prominently. Case markings must be limited to case codes and those contained in this Exhibit.

- 1/ Insert any additional product style, pack, packing media, or further definition as applicable; (i.e. Canned Beans etc.).
- 2/ Insert the size and number of packages per case, i.e. 6 /No. 10 cans, 6/5 pound bags, 12/46 ounce cans, 1/25 pound bag.
- 3/ Insert the last five digits of contract number.
- 4/ Insert month and year packed (The first month of packing season is acceptable).
- 5/ Insert name of Packer and Packer's Address - City, State, and Zip Code. This information can be placed on the end panels or the side panels.
- 6/ Insert Universal Product Code (see Exhibit "5").
- 7/ Vendors who have proper certification are encouraged to place the universally recognized Kosher symbol here.

Exhibit 3

Alternative Label Information for Shipping Containers
(Includes all Required Information)



Product Name

Style

Packing Media

Size/Number per case

Contract Number xxxxx

Packed in: Month Year

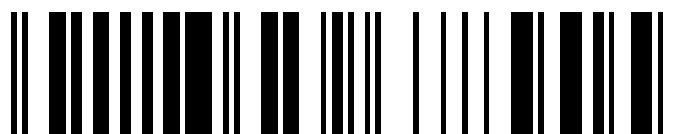
Packed by: ABC Growers

Any Town, CA 99999

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED

STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE



1234567891012345678910

Exhibit 4
Sample Alternative Label for Shipping Containers



Vegetarian Beans

Packed in Tomato Sauce

6/No. 10 cans

Contract Number 92000

Packed in: November 1999

Packed by: ABC Growers

Any Town, CA 99999

**DISTRIBUTED BY USDA IN COOPERATION
WITH STATE AND LOCAL OR TRIBAL
GOVERNMENTS FOR DOMESTIC FOOD
ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS**

**NOT TO BE SOLD OR EXCHANGED
STORE IN A COOL DRY PLACE**



1 07 15001 01091 6

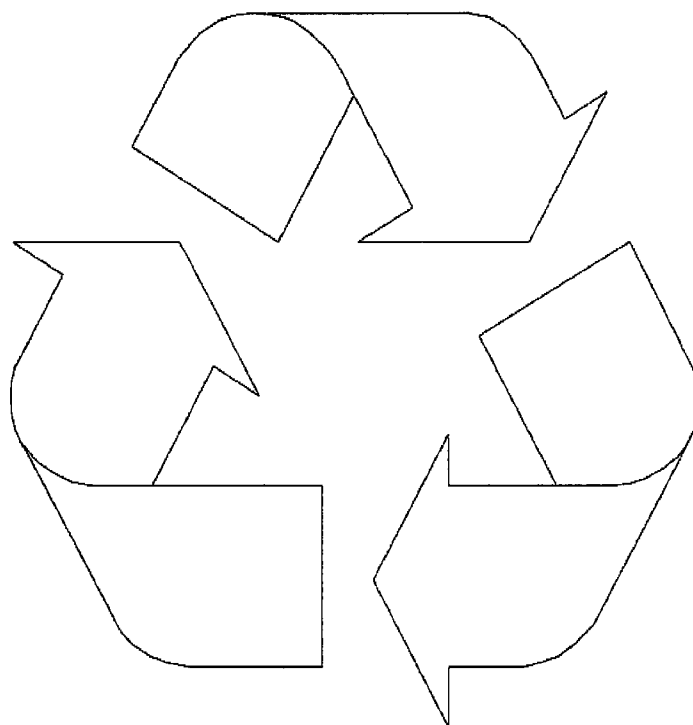
Exhibit 5

Universal Product Codes

| <u>24/300 cans</u> | <u>Primary Container</u> | <u>Secondary Container</u> |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Vegetarian Beans | 7 1500101090 2 | 1 07 15001 01090 9 |
| Refried Beans | 7 1500101093 3 | 1 07 15001 01093 0 |
| Pigeon Beans | 7 1500101071 1 | 1 07 15001 01071 8 |
| <u>6/10 cans</u> | | |
| Vegetarian Beans | 7 1500101091 9 | 1 07 15001 01091 6 |
| Refried Beans | 7 1500101085 8 | 1 07 15001 01085 5 |
| Garbanzo Beans | 7 1500101089 6 | 1 07 15001 01089 3 |
| Small Red Beans | 7 1500101087 2 | 1 07 15001 01087 9 |
| Pink Beans | 7 1500101083 4 | 1 07 15001 01083 1 |
| Baby Lima Beans | 7 1500101082 7 | 1 07 15001 01082 4 |
| Pigeon Peas Beans | 7 1500101072 8 | 1 07 15001 01072 5 |
| Pinto Beans | 7 1500101079 7 | 1 07 15001 01079 4 |
| Blackeye Beans | 7 1500101084 1 | 1 07 15001 01084 8 |
| Red Kidney Beans | 7 1500101086 5 | 1 07 15001 01086 2 |
| Great Northern Beans | 7 1500101088 9 | 1 07 15001 01088 6 |
| Black Turtle Beans | 7 1500101908 5 | 1 07 15001 01908 7 |

Exhibit 6

“Please Recycle” Symbol and Statement



**PLEASE
RECYCLE**

Exhibit 7

“Corrugated Recycles” Symbol and Statement

Exhibit 8

USDA Symbol

